

10015 61-4380

*Project Misc
Collection*

20 DEC 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant for Coordination

SUBJECT : Scientific and Technical Intelligence Collection

REFERENCE : Top Secret memorandum dated 15 December 1961 to Chairman, United States Intelligence Board from Assistant for Coordination, subj: "Scientific and Technical Intelligence - General (Recommendation No. 15 of the October 4, 1961 Report to the President by the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board)"

1. On reviewing the referenced document and its attachments, I recognize immediately that measures for improving the over-all collection of scientific and technical intelligence capabilities of the Soviet Bloc will depend upon funds not readily estimable and perhaps not available, but which certainly could be of considerable magnitude. If the UHIB approves the recommendations, their implementation will depend much upon the availability of funds.

2. I have some reservation concerning the assessment paper's suggestion for accelerating the machine translation capability which would "..... require considerable amounts of additional funds before this capability is fully realized." As recently as November 14, barely a month ago, the Agency's Advisory Committee on Mechanical Linguistics questioned the quality of the machine-produced output, in addition to the cost and time required to post-edit the product, and recommended to the DD/I that the Agency cease support of the [redacted] mechanical translation output, and that the Agency should consider supporting production runs only when prior evaluation of any system concludes that the Agency needs and can profit by such runs from a time/cost basis. For example, machine translations, so far, have proved to cost more than two times as much as human translations.

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L. K. White
Deputy Director
(Support)

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